

Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference Annual Meeting
February 11, 2017 at Pasadena Mennonite Church
12:45 p.m.

1. Conference Minister Clare Ann Ruth-Heffelbower welcomed those attending in the room and on the Zoom connection. Moderator Femi Fatunmbi read a passage from the Psalms and introduced MCUSA representative Terry Shue, who offered a devotional. Tim and Mariann Reardon, pastors at Pasadena Mennonite Church, led in singing.
2. Roll call resulted in 20 congregations represented by 53 delegates. 40 delegates are present in the room, and 13 are attending by Zoom. (These numbers are corrected from the numbers announced at the meeting after carefully reviewing the roll call.)
3. **Action:** Minutes of the last delegate meeting were reviewed and approved. M/S/C
4. The report of the membership committee was given. This included a motion passed by the PSMC Board this morning to accept as member congregations those which have re-applied for membership in PSMC and to terminate the membership of those congregations which have not reapplied for membership. The report listing the churches in each category is attached to the minutes.
5. Kathi Oswald described the process of contacting and working with all the congregations. 26 congregations have re-applied for membership in PSMC and 8 congregations have not re-applied. As we were meeting it was learned that Miracle of Faith Mennonite Church had submitted an application and letter requesting membership, but it had gone to the wrong email address and had just been received today. The 26 congregations re-applying for membership include Miracle of Faith.
6. The following motion was moved and seconded:
“It is moved to accept the report of the Membership Committee, accepting into membership the above congregations that have re-applied for membership in PSMC and terminating membership in PSMC of the above congregations that have not re-applied for membership in PSMC. We encourage congregations whose membership is terminated but who wish to recommit to membership in PSMC to complete the membership process. Additional congregations will be accepted into membership at the June 9-11 Assembly.”
7. Discussion and questions for clarification followed.
 - The notices required by the bylaws have been given.
 - Congregations that have submitted a membership application form and a letter requesting membership in PSMC are in the group continuing as members.
 - Some congregations have not completed the requested paperwork, but are continuing to work at it. Clare Ann described the situation of each of the 8 churches whose membership in PSMC will be terminated today.
 - *All Souls Christian Center* - Femi Fatunmbi talked with Pastor Charles Opong, Sr. last week. He said they would reapply for membership in PSMC. Nothing has been received so far.
 - *Christ Life Chapel* – Clare Ann has talked with Pastor Harry Nze several times. He intends to recommit to membership in PSMC. Some documents have been submitted, but not all. Gene Kimel spoke with him last week and Harry asked if their membership could be put on hold because they are restructuring. Conversation with Harry will continue.
 - *Indonesian Christian Community Fellowship* – PSMC Administrator, Agnes Chigoji, received an email soon after the initial membership recommitment materials were sent indicating that they wanted to continue to be members of PSMC. However, there has been no response to follow-up emails reminding them to submit the membership application and letter.

- *Indonesian Worship Church* – Hyun Hur made numerous attempted contacts via phone and email but received no response. He was going to make a personal visit to Pastor Budi Hannanto, but we have not heard the result of that. Earlier Clare Ann had been told by Virgo Handojo that Indonesian Worship Church was not going to continue with PSMC.
 - *Jemaat Kristen Indonesia Anugerah* – A number of people have had conversations with Pastor Virgo Handojo including Clare Ann, Kathi, Joe Roos and Femi. Amelia Alianto, a member of the congregation, has also spoken with Virgo and offered to complete the membership application form. Virgo has said he is not going to submit anything.
 - *Ministerios en Su Presencia* – Jaime Lazaro met with Pastor Eliseo Franco who told him that the Church would not continue to be a member of PSMC. Clare Ann communicated with Joel Fetzer, a member of the congregation, who did not know of this but said that if that is what Eliseo said, the congregation will support it. Clare Ann sent an email to Eliseo asking for a confirmation of this decision, but received no response. Jaime advised that Eliseo's decision was firm.
 - *San Francisco Chinese Mennonite Church* – Clare Ann has had several conversations with Pastor Joshua So. He indicated that the congregation would continue to be a member of PSMC, but has submitted no documents. David Gray made numerous efforts to contact him, but received no response to his phone calls or emails. Joshua sent an email just before the annual meeting expressing an unwillingness to take any action to remain part of PSMC.
 - *Trinity Chinese Mennonite Church* – Trinity told Joe Roos that they were not going to continue as members of PSMC.
- There were serious concerns raised about this course of action.
 - A question was asked as to whether the churches whose membership in PSMC is being terminated knew what was happening. That information was included in several communications with the churches, including a letter that was sent by email on February 3 to churches that had not re-applied for membership, extending the deadline for the application and letter to be submitted until February 10. Offers of assistance in completing the application process were also made to all churches.
 - It was clarified that tax-exempt status of churches is not affected by termination, but that with termination, 501(c)(3) status is no longer recognized as part of the MCUSA group determination letter.
 - It was also clarified that termination of church membership does not immediately affect ordination status or membership on church-wide boards. Credentials will be held by PSMC for pastors of churches with whom we are still in conversation in accordance with the MC USA policy for churches currently in transition in their relationships to conferences.

8. **Action:** The question was called for. There were 27 affirmative votes and 16 negative votes. The motion accepting 26 congregations into membership and terminating the membership of 8 congregations passed. Sadness was expressed that we are divided on this. We will continue conversations with churches whose memberships are terminated today if they would like to complete the membership process to be accepted as members at the June Assembly.
9. The finance report and the proposed FY 2018 budget were presented by Joe Roos. The budget is attached. The proposed budget brings us closer to living within our means. We have been spending down reserves. The proposed budget is split into two 6 month periods. Staff time will be cut in the first period with a total of 1.25 FTE at that point. The second half of the year the projected staff time is 7/8 FTE. A question was raised about restricted funds being changed to unrestricted. It was explained that no donor intent was violated. A question was raised about whether prior delegate action had restricted funds and required delegate action to change. The response was that no such action has been taken. A question was asked regarding the FCT lease. We signed a three-year lease in August 2016. Comments about staff cuts were made including a concern that we treat staff justly. Kathi said that the Board shares that concern. A revised budget that reflects decisions about staffing will be brought to the June Assembly.

10. **Action:** It was M/S/C to approve the budget.
11. **Action:** The gift discernment report was presented (attached). It was M/S/C to approve the slate.
12. A short break was held and an offering was taken.
13. David Gray reported on the work of Full Circle Thrift and the development of the Anabaptist Resource Center. He shared the need for volunteers and encouraged local people to get involved. He also suggested that churches collect jewelry to donate to the store. That is something small that can be sent from a distance. David invited people to come to the store following the meeting for a tour and gave an ongoing invitation for prayer for this effort.
14. Gordon Smith reported on the work of the Pastoral Leadership Committee. He pointed out that beginning this year, credentialed pastors will be required to pursue Continuing Education Units (CEUs). More information on continuing education requirements will be coming soon.
15. Stephen Penner reported on the Connecting Churches Committee—a subcommittee of the Year of Recommitment Steering Committee. They will be encouraging churches to choose a sister congregation to strengthen relationships between churches.
16. Clare Ann described the PSMC Celebration Assembly that will take place June 9-11 at Idyllwild Pines Camp and Conference Center. It will focus on worship and fellowship with a brief delegate session. Registration information will be coming soon.
17. A query about Pastor/Spouse Retreat preferences was made. We can be at Camp Keola September 29-October 1 for \$50/person for the weekend (2 nights/6 meals) or at Oak Glen Christian Conference Center in Yucaipa for \$120/person for the weekend of October 6-8 (2 nights/5 meals). Initial response seems that people prefer Camp Keola. Clare Ann asked people to contact her if they have input. A decision on location will need to be made soon.
18. West Coast MCC is tentatively planning a learning tour for PSMC and PNMC to Israel/Palestine this fall. The cost would be around \$2500-\$3000 with MCC providing some scholarship assistance. There is some interest in this trip which Clare Ann will report to West Coast MCC.
19. Clare Ann mentioned the program sponsored by Everence called “Creating Congregational Cultures of Generosity.” The Lilly Grant is covering most of the cost this program with congregations only paying a minimal amount. Everence wants to have five congregations participate when they do an event. Trinity is planning to hold a CCCG event this fall for the Arizona churches. Clare Ann hopes to schedule events for Southern California and Northern California in the fall or the following spring (2018).
20. Wholicare Community Missionary Church invites everyone to a service of remembrance for Pastor Jules Massamba next Saturday, February 18 at 5:00 p.m. at 464 E. Walnut St., Pasadena.
21. PSMC Board members who are completing terms and leaving the Board were recognized. They are Femi Fatunmbi, Joyce Welch and Meg Duff. Persons moving into new positions we also recognized.
22. The meeting was adjourned with prayer at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Recorded by Duane Ruth-Heffelbower/Clare Ann Ruth-Heffelbower

Motion for PSMC 2017 Annual Meeting

(amended after adopted by PSMC Board 2-11-17 to include Miracle of Faith Mennonite Church in congregations which have re-applied for membership)

The Pacific Southwest Conference Board at its September 16-18, 2016 meeting initiated a membership recommitment process. The Board action stated that congregations who wish to recommit to membership in PSMC are invited to submit a membership application along with supporting documents, as required by the PSMC Membership Guidelines. Congregations that do not submit a membership application will no longer be members of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference as of February 11, 2017.

The following congregations have re-applied for membership in Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference:

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| 1. Bethel Community Church | 14. Maranatha Christian Fellowship |
| 2. Family Mennonite Church | 15. Mennonite Community Church |
| 3. First Mennonite Church of Paso Robles | 16. Miracle of Faith Mennonite Church |
| 4. First Mennonite Church of Phoenix | 17. Mountain View Mennonite Church |
| 5. First Mennonite Church of Reedley/
Primera Iglesia Menonita Reedley | 18. Pasadena Mennonite Church |
| 6. First Mennonite Church of San Francisco | 19. Peace Mennonite Fellowship |
| 7. Gereja Kristen Injili Indonesia – Zion | 20. Royal Dominion International Church |
| 8. Hmong Community Church | 21. San Diego Mennonite Church |
| 9. Jemaat Kristen Indonesia Hosana | 22. Shalom Mennonite Fellowship |
| 10. Jemaat Kristen Indonesia Imanuel | 23. Sunnyslope Mennonite Church |
| 11. Koinonia Mennonite Church | 24. Trinity Mennonite Church |
| 12. Life House Community Church | 25. Upland Peace Church |
| 13. Los Angeles Faith Chapel | 26. Wholicare Community Missionary Church |

The following congregations have not re-applied for membership in Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference:

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| 1. All Souls Christian Center | 5. Jemaat Kristen Indonesia Anugerah |
| 2. Christ Life Chapel | 6. Ministerios en Su Presencia |
| 3. Indonesian Christian Community Fellowship | 7. San Francisco Chinese Mennonite Church |
| 4. Indonesian Worship Church | 8. Trinity Chinese Mennonite Church |

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PSMC Gift Discernment Committee Report 2017

Conference Board of Directors (2 year term – may serve 3 terms)

Asterisks indicate candidates to be affirmed at 2017 Annual Meeting

Executive Committee (also functions as Personnel Committee)

Position (term)	Nominee	Term Ends	To be affirmed
Moderator (one 2 year term)	Kathi Oswald Mennonite Community, Fresno	2019	*
Moderator Elect (one 2 year term)	Pastor Romero First Mennonite, Paso Robles	2019	*
Secretary (2 year)	Tina Schlabach/2 nd Shalom, Tucson	2019	*
Treasurer (2 year)	Irene Poernomo/1 st Maranatha Christian Fellowship	2019	*

Board Representatives (2 year term – may serve 3 terms)

Southern CA	Anthonia Onye L.A. Faith, Los Angeles	2019	*
Southern CA	Amelia Alianto/1 st JKI Anugerah	2018	
Arizona	Scott Peterson/2 nd Trinity, Phoenix	2019	*
Arizona	Gene Kimel/2 nd Trinity, Phoenix	2018	
Northern CA	Don Linscheid/3 rd Mennonite Community, Fresno	2018	
Northern CA	Gordon Smith/1 st Mennonite Community, Fresno	2019	*
At-large	Joe Roos Peace Mennonite	2019	*
At-large	Juan Montes/1 st Primera Iglesia Menonita	2018	

Pastoral Leadership Committee (3 year term – may serve 2 terms)

Chair	Gordon Smith	2020	*
Southern CA	Helen Mfwilwakanda/1 st (appointed to fill a vacant position, now eligible for her first term)	2020	*
Arizona	Al Whaley/1 st	2019	
Northern CA	Barbara Ewy/1 st	2020	*
Conference Minister	Clare Ann Ruth-Heffelbower	Ex officio	

Gift Discernment Committee 2017-18

Chair	Melinda Hasegawa	*
Northern CA	Meg Duff	*
Southern CA		
Southern CA		
Arizona	Ben Shetler	*

PSMC Representatives to other Boards

Board	Name	To be affirmed
Retreat Ministries 3 year term Max of 2 full terms PSMRM Board has reorganized. All members began new terms in 2016. Terms are staggered so everyone doesn't change at once.	Rwang Pam/1 st term ends 2019	*
	Mark Davis/1 st term ends 2019	*
	Alan Hilty/1 st term ends 2019	*
	Lisa Penner/1 st term ends 2019	*
	Mark McReynolds/1 st term ends 2018	*
	Jen Bucher/1 st term ends 2018	*
	Ken Quenzer/1 st term ends 2018	*
	Edith Prieto Montano/1 st term ends 2017	*
	Juan Montes/1 st term ends 2017	*
	Roberta Linscheid/2 nd term ends 2020	*
West Coast MCC 3 year terms – eligible for four terms	PSMC appointed representatives: Sunoko Lin/2014-2017 (4 th) Jennette Claassen/2015-2018	*
	Other PSMC representatives appointed by WC MCC: Nehemiah Chigoji Grace Pam Fran Martens Friesen	
Bethel College	Dan Flickinger /term ends 2021	
MDS, Southern CA	Jake Bergen (2017-2020)	*